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3 June 1957

ATTN : Chief, St/I/R
THRU : Mr. [REDACTED] 25X1A9a
: Chief, D/S
: Chief, S/IR

25X1A8a

[REDACTED] Targets for Czechoslovakia

Objective II d.

"The strengths and weaknesses of the Soviet economy, with particular reference to its ability to support a major war; the motivation, character, and magnitude of current economic, political, and military strength of the Soviet Bloc; the capabilities and vulnerabilities of the Soviet and Satellite internal communications systems."

Background

Czechoslovakia is second among the Satellites in transport performance, and within the country is one of the major east-west lines used by the USSR. We have much conflicting data on transportation in Czechoslovakia, and it is difficult to assess the transport capabilities of that country from the information we do have. We feel that it is particularly important that we have better information on the transport capabilities of this country, because if the Soviets were denied the use of the Polish railroads, then the bulk of the traffic from the USSR would have to go via the Czechoslovakian railway and road system.

Basic Guidance

We received some very useful information on traffic performance and inventory of rolling stock of the Czech railroads [REDACTED] 25X1A2g
[REDACTED] from a source who was an official in the Ministry of Transport. His information was allegedly obtained from a yearbook or handbook of transportation which was classified "Secret." We asked the source for a copy of or photographs of the yearbook from which he obtained his information, but the source was apprehended before the yearbook was forthcoming. The information the source furnished us from this yearbook differs from the various sets of figures that the Czechs have published. Therefore, we need the original document in order to see what the true situation is in regard to transportation in Czechoslovakia.

Although one source has been apprehended, we have at least one other source who is connected with the Ministry of Transport. Perhaps the latter could obtain a copy of the desired yearbook.

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Target

Transportation Yearbook
or Handbook classified
"Secret"


Location

Offices of Ministry of Transport,
Ministry of Railroads, Ministry of
Roads

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Distribution:

Original and 1 - 25X1A9a
1 - Addressee
1 - 
1 - Ch/D/S ✓
2 - Ch/S/TR

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